

EXHIBIT J (Revised)  
Circular No. A-46

STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF FIELDS OF SCIENCE  
AND ENGINEERING

In order to promote comparability in the presentation of information on funds devoted to research and development, the Federal Council for Science and Technology has approved a standard classification of fields of science and engineering, a copy of which is attached.

Federal agencies undertaking statistical surveys involving the collection of financial data on research and development will be expected to conform to this classification in requesting information on fields of science. It is not intended, however, that the entire classification be required in every case. For some purposes only the major categories, such as physical sciences or life sciences, may be sufficient, whereas for others a more detailed breakdown may be desired. In either event, the titles and definitions used should be in conformity with the standard so that the data may be combined to produce major field totals compatible with the basic structure.

The new classification scheme was developed by an interagency committee, set up for the purpose at the request of the Office of Science and Technology and the Bureau of the Budget. Committee membership included representatives of the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Interior, and Health, Education and Welfare, the Atomic Energy Commission, Bureau of the Budget, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation.

If questions arise concerning the intention of the classification or if agencies wish to propose changes in the classification, questions and suggestions should be referred to the National Science Foundation. The NSF will undertake to resolve issues with appropriate interagency representatives.

Attachment

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